The Weekly News Letter is published by authority and instruction of the St. Louis Convention of the American Federation of Labor, and is furnished, weekly free of cost, to all official labor and reform publications.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS LETTER

Entered as second-class matter, September 30, 1912, at the Post-office at Washington, D. C., under the act of August 24, 1912.

The A. F. of L. Weekly News Letter contains a brief summary of important matters affecting labor, occurring in the industrial, legislative, and judicial fields, and such other information that will benefit the trade union movement.

VOL. 3. NO. 10 | WASHINGTON, D. C. SATURDAY, JUNE 7. 1913. | WHOLE NO. 114

GOOD NIGHT

SCHEME OF RAILROADS FAIL

Unsuccessful Effort Made to Divide Brotherhoods.

WILL GO OUT OF COMMISSION

Employes' and Investors' Association, Founded on Economic Sandcastle, Succumbs to Inevitable.

Washington, June 7.—Press reports state that the Association of Railway Employes' and Investors' Association will disband July 1. This association was formed five years ago at the instance of the railroads. At the time of its formation P. H. Morrissey, then president of the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen, was selected by the railroads as president of the association. The Employes' and Investors' Association made itself conspicuous by opposing all remedial legislation sought by the railroad organizations of the various States and also the Federal Congress. This association not only opposed labor and other legislation affecting railroads, but even concerned itself in other labor legislation. Some years ago, while the forces of organized labor were endeavoring to secure a ten-hour law for women in the State of Illinois, the Employes' and Investors' Association had representatives on the ground opposing it. When the railroads, a few years ago, succeeded in have repealed Section 9 of Article 9, of the constitution of Oklahoma, which in effect would have repealed that part of the constitution, which abrogated the fellow-servant rule, the State swarmed with representatives of the Employes' and Investors' Association, who assisted the railroad corporations as against the railroad brotherhoods in an effort to secure the repeal of this section. The people of the State, however, refused to sanction the appeal by a majority of approximately 100,000. As a matter of fact it has been patent that the Employes' and Investors' Association was nothing more or less than a scheme originating in the brains of a few railroad magnates for the purpose of hectoring and dividing the employes of the railroads who were members of the various brotherhoods. By the voluntary dissolution of the association it operates as a public acknowledgment that the railroads have failed in their scheme to divide or destroy the influence and efficiency of the railroad brotherhoods. The president of this ill-minded association, P. H. Morrissey, it is severed, is to become an assistant to the vice president of the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Railroad.

GLOVEWORKERS STRIKE.

Toledo, Ohio, June 7.—Because their wages were cut to 76 cents a day, a score of girl employes of a local glove canton company went on strike. The Central Labor Union was appealed to for assistance, the girls being unorganized. Through the Central body publicity was given the company because of the low wage and that disgrace was the cause of the starvation wages paid its women employes. Such a vigorous fight was put up against the company that eighty more of the employes joined the original strikers. The plant is now shut down, but it is said that the girls will tire of what the management terms "mad folly." The girls, however, are enthusiastic, and are determined to remain out until a decent wage can be secured.

VOCATIONAL EDUCATION.

Washington, June 7.—The appointment of a commission of nine to study plans for a Federal system of aid to vocational education has been indorsed by the Senate Committee on Education and Labor. The committee recommended the passage of the resolution introduced by Senator Hoke Smith of Georgia, under which a commission, appointed by the President, will report to Congress in December. The purpose is to secure information upon which to draft a bill to aid in matters of this which received consideration during the Sixty-second Congress, but which did not become laws.

REORGANIZE LABOR BUREAU.

Harrisburg, Pa., June 7.—The governor has approved the bill creating the Department of Labor and Industry and appointed John Price Jackson as first commissioner. The new department will take over duties and powers of the present Department of Factory Inspection. Three bureaus are created by the bill, inspection, statistics, and arbitration. The first will handle the work of the Factory Inspection Department, the second the industrial and other statistics, and the third will mediate in case of strikes.

RACINE LABOR TEMPLE.

Racine, Wis., June 7.—The labor unions of this city have at last realized their efforts rewarded. A new $40,000 labor temple has just been completed and dedicated. The structure is a credit to the zeal and fidelity of the members of organized labor in this city, and is an evidence of the great accomplishments that aeerue from collective effort. The Racine unionists are justly proud of their new home and it will materially assist the movement in its constructive work.

PRISON LABOR COMMISSION.

Washington, June 7.—A national commission to study prison labor is proposed in a bill by Senator O'Gorman. The committee, according to the bill, would seek to provide employment which would promote the welfare of prisoners to prevent unfair competition. Here the prison-made goods and goods produced by free labor, and, to obtain, if possible, legislation to prohibit of prisoners, a fair proportion of the prisoners' earnings.

MUNICIPAL LABORERS ORGANIZE

Pittsburgh, June 7.—Another new union has been added to the long list of labor organizations by the organizing of the laborers employed by the city. Many local starts out with a good-sized charter list and prospects of being an effective organization.

SENTIMENT WORLD-WIDE.

Washington, June 7.—The press dispatches chronicle the fact that the Chamber of Deputies of Montenegro has approved a bill providing for an eight-hour day for workmen employed on government work.

NEW LAW IN EFFECT.

Portland, Oreg., June 7.—A law establishing the ten-hour day as the maximum time that persons may be employed in any mill or manufacturing establishment in Oregon, went into effect on June 1.

ST. LOUIS NEWS.

St. Louis, Mo., June 7.—No change has taken place in the status of the maintenance men of the Bell Telephone Company, other than there has been a conference between representatives of the management of the phone company. This conference, however, did not result in any progress. The girl operators are being organized and indications are that a strong organization will result. The waiters, cooks, and bartenders have some difficulty on at the present time, but the outlook is good for a settlement. Three hundred women and 150 men are involved in a strike against the Home Cotton Mills. Edward Keating, secretary of the Central Labor Union and organizer of the A. F. of L., who has been assisting the strikers, states that the mills are closed, and that the employes are determined to stay out until their demands are acceded to. The spinners are the only ones on strike, but this makes it impossible for the mills to operate. The controversy is over the docking of three hours not worked on Saturday afternoon and the refusal of the workers to labor more than nine hours per day on other days of the week. The principal laborers strike is still on, the association employers refusing to grant the strikers' demands that the nine hundred men are involved in this contest. Following the refusal of all but the boiler workers to agree to the terms of 10 cents per hour, and the eight hour day, boilermakers and helpers are on strike.

ELECTRICIANS AMALGAMATE.

Springfield, Mass., June 7.—A committee of the Springfield Central Labor Union has been appointed to confer with about an amalgamation between the two local unions of electrical workers in this city. At a recent joint meeting was held of the members of the two locals, and the members voted to take the matter up with the American Federation of Labor. This happy solution of the problem came about through the actions in favor of the new organization affiliated with the A. F. of L., together with the splendid service rendered by the officials of the Central Labor Union, added to the good judgment displayed by the electricians dealt in framing up their internal conflict. This action will be of great benefit to the local movement in this city, and will result in the settlement of other difficulties as they arise.

NEW LABEL SCHEME.

New York, June 7.—"Our International has made a name heretofore unknown when" it decided to join with our employers in the issuance of a label to take the place of the union label," said President Rosenberg, of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union. The action was taken by a special convention of the organization, held in Philadelphia. The label which will be controlled by committees representing the union and those employers who will enter into with the organization. This plan of adopting a joint label is a new one, and its effects will be watched with wonderful interest. It is proposed now that both the organization and the employers using this label, shall conduct vigorous campaigns for the purpose of calling attention to the conditions under which garments bearing the joint label are made.

LAUNDRY WORKERS GET RAISE.

Little Rock, Ark., June 7.—Proprietors of the Little Rock, North Little Rock and Argenta, six in number, have agreed to grant all women employes a minimum wage of $6 a week, through the graded scale of $4. They also agree to a nine hour working day. Further, hours are to be gradually reduced until an eight-hour day is established, and working conditions are to be improved. These conditions have been brought about largely by the chief of the State's newly created Labor Department, who confronted the laundry proprietors with a vast array of facts as to the conditions of the women employed in the laundry industry.

AGAINST EMPLOYING FAMILIES.

Washington, June 7.—Senator Martin of Virginia has announced that he intends to urge the enactment of his bill to prevent the employment of both husbands and wives by the government. By a cursory investigation of the various government departments it is brought to light that the custom of both husbands and wives working for the government is common. The bill of Senator Martin has been introduced and will be pressed for passage in the belief that husbands should support their wives, and that the government should not discriminate by employment of husbands and their wives.

ELECTRICAL WORKERS STRIKE.

Hamilton, Ohio, June 7.—The members of the local organization of Electrical workers are on strike. Demands were made before the flood for an increase in wages, and these demands the strikers declared should be granted in order to give the employers a chance to adjust themselves to the conditions. Electricians in the building trades have been receiving $2.1-2 cents per hour, and they demands are for 50 cents per hour. The outlook is good for a successful outcome.

FALL RIVER CARPENTERS

Falls River, Mass., June 7.—The carpenters of this district are on strike and all construction work is practically at a standstill. The contractors have refused to in any way consider the strikers' demands for increases. Heretofore the carpenters have been receiving $2.1-2 cents per hour, and they demands are for 50 cents per hour. The outlook is good for a successful outcome.

RACINE LABOR TEMPLE.

Racine, Wis., June 7.—The labor unions of this city have at last realized their efforts rewarded. A new $40,000 labor temple has just been completed and dedicated. The structure is a credit to the zeal and fidelity of the members of organized labor in this city, and is an evidence of the great accomplishments that aeerue from collective effort. The Racine unionists are justly proud of their new home and it will materially assist the movement in its constructive work.

PRISON LABOR COMMISSION.

Washington, June 7.—A national commission to study prison labor is proposed in a bill by Senator O'Gorman. The committee, according to the bill, would seek to provide employment which would promote the welfare of prisoners to prevent unfair competition. Here the prison-made goods and goods produced by free labor, and, to obtain, if possible, legislation to prohibit of prisoners, a fair proportion of the prisoners' earnings.

MUNICIPAL LABORERS ORGANIZE

Pittsburgh, June 7.—Another new union has been added to the long list of labor organizations by the organizing of the laborers employed by the city. Many local starts out with a good-sized charter list and prospects of being an effective organization.

SENTIMENT WORLD-WIDE.

Washington, June 7.—The press dispatches chronicle the fact that the Chamber of Deputies of Montenegro has approved a bill providing for an eight-hour day for workmen employed on government work.

NEW LAW IN EFFECT.

Portland, Oreg., June 7.—A law establishing the ten-hour day as the maximum time that persons may be employed in any mill or manufacturing establishment in Oregon, went into effect on June 1.

FOR COAL DIGGERS.

INVESTIGATION UNDER WAY

Subcommittee Appointed to Conduct the Inquiry.

WORK IS TO BE EXPEDITED

First-hand Evidence to be Procured by a Visit to West Virginia.

Washington, June 7.—The Senate investigation of conditions in the strike district of West Virginia is progressing. A subcommittee has been appointed by the Senate Education and Labor Committee to begin active work, and Senators Swanson, the chairman, asserted that every effort would be made to complete the investigation promptly and to be consistent with the thorough examination of conditions. Senators Martine, Shields, Borah, and Kenyon are the other members of the committee. It is probable that Gov. Hatfield of West Virginia, whose orders placing the militia on duty during the Paint Creek and Cabin Creek mining districts under martial law, and the military officers who took charge of the affected territory, will be the first witnesses heard in this inquiry. It is expected that before the Senators go to West Virginia a general investigation will be begun here, from documentary evidence concerning the activities of the West Virginia militia following the declaration of martial law. The committee wants to have a fairly complete record of the legal status of citizens in the strike zone when it visits the affected territory.

STRIKE ON CITY RAILWAY.

Fort William, Ontario, June 7.—The Wage Earner, in its last issue, in discussing the strike of the motormen and conductors on the municipally owned city railway of the Twin Cities (Fort William and Port Arthur), says: "On Tuesday last the street railway commissioners became the hosts of the first of the strike breakers. Bunks, furnished with mattresses and blankets, at the Yale payers' expense, had been sent down to the car barns, together with a good supply of food. History does not record who is supplying the military. Nothing of its effects has already transpired. At 9 o'clock a street car cautiously proceeded along the ways, attended by armed constables, and everything looked very inviting to possible passengers, for the seats were vacant. Much to the disappointment of those who had made elaborate arrangements for shooting into mobs and killing out the military. Nothing was doing along this line. The daily press could not conceal its surprise at the quietness of the proceedings, and tried to make things interesting by publishing insinuations and false assertions against union men and labor men in general."

"PIECE IS SET."

Washington, June 7.—After arranging for the munitions of international peace against President Gompers, Vice President Mitchell, and Secretary Morrison, of the American Federation of Labor, in the event the United States Supreme Court does not grant the writs applied for when Justice Wright granted the District of Columbia Court of Appeals has adjourned for the summer. The mandates prohibiting the defendants to jail for thirty days and fining them $1,000 and $500 each, respectively, Morrison $50 each, is in readiness to be handed down should the court of last resort see fit to affirm the decision or undertake a review of the proceedings.

RAILWAY CARMEN.

Kansas City, Mo., June 7.—Five new lodges have been chartered, and 1,000 are gathered advisable to give the location of some of these new lodges, owing to the hostility which would be aroused, therefore they are omitted. One lodge, however, has been formed in Illinois, another at Belleville. One on the Rock Island system, one on the Missouri, Pacific, St. Louis, Iron Mountain, and Southern, one at McGehee, Ark., and another new lodge in Louisiana, as well as one on the Texas and Pacific system. The organization continues to grow in effectiveness and numerical strength.

FLORIDA NEWS.

Jacksonville, Fla., June 7.—A new paper has been launched in this city by the Central Typographical union, and is called Of the Artisan, volume 1, No. 1, appearing on May 31. A local union of Butcher Workmen, with a charter list of forty, has just been organized. The outlook for the building trades is exceedingly good, with a prospect for a full season of work, which will give the building trades organizations an opportunity to strengthen their position and increase their membership.

BREWERY WORKERS WIN.

San Francisco, June 7.—An agreement has been reached in that city between the Brewers' Union and the Brewers or of California, and a strike has been averted. The new wage and working agreement affecting the various unions in the city of San Francisco, which will mean an advance of $1.50 a week, beer wagon drivers, $1 per week, extra drivers' assistants, $1.50 per week. Bottlers, $2.50 and $2.25 per week. This agreement covers the entire brewing interests of California.

ASK ARMOUR PLATE DATA.

Washington, June 7.—Another step toward government operation of an armor plate plant was taken today when the senate, it adopted a resolution, presented by Senator Tillman, calling on the Secretary of the Navy for information from bidders relative to the cost of manufacturing armor plate and the cost and time that would be required in erecting and equipping a plant suitable to turn out sufficient armor plate for the needs of the government.

SAILORS' HOME.

San Francisco, June 7.—A new home for the Sailors' Union of the Pacific is to be erected at a cost of $150,000 on the recently acquired site on Clay Street. The lot cost $60,000. The new headquarters and up-to-date in every respect and will contain reading rooms, a gymnasium, assembly hall and offices for the officials of the union and kindred crafts.

ELECT UNION MAN.

Denver, June 7.—Otto Thum, a member of the Typographical Union, has been elected under the new commission form of government as a commissioner of Prosperity. He has long been identified with public institutions, he having been a trustee of the School of Mines for Golden for many years, and has just completed a term of two years as one of the city officials.

NEW KIND.

PLANTS ARE CLOSED DOWN

Assign Prospective Governmental Changes the Cause.

TWO COMPANIES ARE INVOLVED

Department of Commerce May Be Called on to Carry Out Investigation.

Boston, June 7.—The plants of the B. F. Sturtevant Company and of the Becker Milling Machine Company at Hyde Park, from which 1,300 workmen walked out, probably will be shut down indefinitely, according to a statement made by Governor Foss, who owns a controlling interest in both of the firms. Assertions by the management of these concerns have a bearing upon the prospective tariff changes, and from present indications the controlling interests are to keep these plants idle until Congress takes definite action. It was thought that the assertions mentality made by the Secretary of the Department of Commerce, relative to the formation of companies and actions that cease operation on account of tariff changes, may be put to the test. This test, if it should come to pass, during the plants remain closed after Congress has taken decisive action.

FIREMEN IN SESSION.

Washington, June 7.—More than 1,000 delegates to the twenty-sixth annual convention of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen are in attendance at the first session held in this city on June 2. The convention will probably continue in session during the entire month. Among the important matters to be considered is that of the selection of a city for permanent headquarters. Among those who addressed the convention today by the invitation of Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, and William H. Johnson, president of the International Association of Machinists. Secretary Wilson told the story of how he gave up firing a locomotive after having been kept on the road continuously for seventy-two hours. "At the end of the seventy-second hour I was ordered over to another run and I refused to go. I was suspended, and I made the suspension permanent. From that I worked from eight to ten hours per day, seven days per week, with a wage scale ranging from $4.50 to $5 per week. The boilermakers on the Pere Marquette Railway are on strike to secure an increase in their wages of 5 cents per hour. A portion of the machinists are on strike for an increase in wages, those on strike asking for a 10 per cent lower wages than the union scale.

MACHINISTS NEGOTIATING.

Baltimore, June 7.—Officials of the Machinists' Union of North America, in formation, as well as officers of the Baltimore Federation of Labor, are assisting the former in their negotiations with the employers for the purpose, if possible, of securing a settlement of the garment strike. The machinists are out demanding an eight-hour day and a minimum wage scale of $3.25 per day. It is stated that the machinists are willing to waive the immediate inauguration of the eight-hour day, provided a date can be agreed upon during the early part of the coming year on which the shorter workday will become effective. It does not seem to be an impression prevailing that an adjustment of this difficulty will soon be had.

HUMOR IN STRIKE.

Ottumwa, Iowa, June 7.—The painters and paperhangers in this city are on strike and have been for two weeks unsuccessful in securing any competent workmen to take the places of those out. A touch of humor enters into the situation in some of the advertisements inserted in the local papers by the strike breakers, the following being a sample: "Wanted —Two live paperhangers; no billposters need apply." Notwithstanding the strike now on, the members of the Painters' Union are all at work for fair employers, the agreements having signed by the scale being rushed with work, while the nonunion employers are largely indulging in their union-busting operations.

INCREASE HOLIDAYS.

Springfield, Ohio, June 7.—The Retail Grocers' and Meat Dealers' Union is a good news. This year the members have agreed to close their stores for the day. Four months of the observance of the Wednesday afternoon half-holiday. The months designated are June, July, August and September. Agitation is being carried on by the clerks, with the end in view that they may establish a half-holiday along the same lines as the Grocers' Association.

GOVERNMENT COAL MINE.

Washington, June 7.—Chairman Pitchman, of the Senate Territories Committee, has introduced a bill, which, if passed, will authorize the government to mine coal in Alaska, when, in the opinion of the President, it is needed for the navy or for other purposes and the market might bring relief from oppressive conditions through a monopoly of coal. The bill provides for the withdrawal of all coal lands in the territory from location or purchase and permits them to be entered hereafter only in tracts of 160 acres. Alternate tracts will be kept in the possession of the government.

PRINTERS WANT MORE.

Baltimore, June 7.—The members of the newspaper scale committee of the Baltimore Typographical Union have been gathering data concerning the wages paid by the newspapers in other cities. The data soon fortifies the Baltimore printers with a splendid argument in favor of a raise in wages, as the general wage paid in twenty-seven cities shows that the Baltimore printers receive below the average paid in the cities where data was procured.

LABOR COMMITTEE.

Washington, June 7.—The committees in the House of Representatives have been selected. The one in which labor is most interested, of course, is that of the Labor Committee. In the Sixty-second Congress the Labor Committee was composed of thirteen members, but in the reorganization of the committees in the House on June 3 the Labor Committee for this Congress is composed of twelve members. On this committee there are five members of trade unions, namely: Representatives Lewis, of Maryland, coal miner; Maher of New York, hatter; Casey of Pennsylvania, plumber; Keating of Colorado, printer, and Nolan of California, iron molder. David J. Lewis, a card holder, succeeds to the chairmanship of the committee. The following are the members of the committee: Representative Lewis, of Maryland, chairman; Maher of New York, Gray, of Indiana, Casey of Pennsylvania, Balts of Illinois, Watson of Virginia, Keating of Colorado, Walsh of New Jersey, Smith, of Michigan, Rawley of Oregon, Browne of Wisconsin, and Nolan of California.

MOTHERS' PENSIONS.

Washington, June 7.—In one form or another, laws creating pensions for mothers have been enacted in thirteen different States since 1911. These laws, while similar in many respects, strive at the result sought to be achieved by different methods. The States which are credited with the passage of laws are California, Colorado, Washington, Utah, South Dakota, Idaho, Minnesota, Iowa, Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Pennsylvania. In addition, Missouri has authorized Kansas City to adopt a system similar to that in force in Denver. Wisconsin, without any definite legal enactment, has been operating for the benefit of mothers in a limited way, and in three other States city ordinances and the action of private charitable boards have established the principle of widows' pensions. Similar laws are now under consideration by seven other States.

GOOD FOR IRONWORKERS.

Washington, June 7.—Information coming into headquarters from seemingly reliable sources is that Samuel Sands & McClintock-Marshall Company, one of the largest construction companies in the country, has reached an agreement with the officers of the Bridge and Structural Iron Workers, and that a tentative agreement has been reached. It is a well known fact that the greater portion of the skilled iron workers are members of the Structural Iron Workers, and this may have had some part in securing an understanding with the large construction company mentioned.

TO INVESTIGATE WAGES.

Chicago, June 7.—The relation of low wages of men to the vice question is being investigated by the Illinois Social Welfare Commission. The Senate proposes to seek to establish a fair minimum upon which a man in Chicago can support himself and family, and an effort will be made to secure the enactment of a law making it unlawful for any person to employ for less than such amount. Another phase of the inquiry will be an endeavor to secure information as to what extent low wages operate to lessen the number of marriages and to weaken home influence.

PRINTERS WANT MORE.

Baltimore, June 7.—The members of the newspaper scale committee of the Baltimore Typographical Union have been gathering data concerning the wages paid by the newspapers in other cities. The data soon fortifies the Baltimore printers with a splendid argument in favor of a raise in wages, as the general wage paid in twenty-seven cities shows that the Baltimore printers receive below the average paid in the cities where data was procured.

LABOR'S MEMORIAL DAY.

Washington, June 7.—Reports coming in from all over the country are to the effect that Labor's Memorial Day, the fourth Sunday in May, was more generally observed than at any time previous. As usual, the day was one of receiving increasing recognition with appropriate ceremonies.

WOMEN ELIGIBLE.

Philadelphia, June 7.—The civil service commissioners of this city has made the announcement that women, as well as men, are eligible for the positions of street cleaning inspectors. These positions pay a salary of $1,200 annually.

SWITCHMEN'S CONVENTION.

Houston, Tex., June 7.—The report of the secretary-treasurer of the Switchmen's Union of North America, to the convention just closed, shows that the receipts from May 1, 1912, to January 1, 1913, were $625,690.92, and the disbursements, $495,-189.30, a surplus to be added a balance of $78,974.13, which leaves a total balance on hand on the latter date of $184,481.72. A large amount of money was expended in death claims and donations, the beneficiary department disbursing the largest amount. President Heberling recommended to the convention that the organization offer support to the Federal full crew bill, which was introduced by Gen. Sherwood in the House of Representatives at the first session of the Sixty-second Congress. President Heberling also asserted in his report that he considered it the duty of organized labor, "regardless of party affiliation, to be represented in the various branches of the government, as representation had been lacking in the past and suffering had been caused as a consequence, on account of laws that had been passed inimicable to the laboring people." One of the important decisions of the convention was to the effect that hereafter no delegate to the succeeding sessions of the Switchmen's Union will be permitted to be a member of any other labor organization.

GRAND RAPID NEWS.

Grand Rapids, Mich., June 7.—The investigation conducted by the committee of twenty-five of the Trades and Labor Council brought to light conditions in the city that equal some of the conditions brought out by the Illinois Vice Commission and other commissions in larger cities. It has been revealed that girls employed in factories have been paid wages and work long hours for $4 and $4.50 per week. It has been discovered that the greater portion of girls employed in stores receive $2.50 per week, while a few secure $3 per week. In 85 Restaurants employed girls insist on as high as seventy-two hours per week, while in some instances they are required to work twelve hours per day, seven days per week, with a wage scale ranging from $4.50 to $5 per week. The boilermakers on the Pere Marquette Railway are on strike to secure an increase in their wages of 5 cents per hour. A portion of the machinists are on strike for an increase in wages, those on strike asking for a 10 per cent lower wages than the union scale.

MACHINISTS NEGOTIATING.

Baltimore, June 7.—Officials of the Machinists' Union of North America, in formation, as well as officers of the Baltimore Federation of Labor, are assisting the former in their negotiations with the employers for the purpose, if possible, of securing a settlement of the garment strike. The machinists are out demanding an eight-hour day and a minimum wage scale of $3.25 per day. It is stated that the machinists are willing to waive the immediate inauguration of the eight-hour day, provided a date can be agreed upon during the early part of the coming year on which the shorter workday will become effective. It does not seem to be an impression prevailing that an adjustment of this difficulty will soon be had.

HUMOR IN STRIKE.

Ottumwa, Iowa, June 7.—The painters and paperhangers in this city are on strike and have been for two weeks unsuccessful in securing any competent workmen to take the places of those out. A touch of humor enters into the situation in some of the advertisements inserted in the local papers by the strike breakers, the following being a sample: "Wanted —Two live paperhangers; no billposters need apply." Notwithstanding the strike now on, the members of the Painters' Union are all at work for fair employers, the agreements having signed by the scale being rushed with work, while the nonunion employers are largely indulging in their union-busting operations.

ANOTHER LABOR TEMPLE.

Springfield, Ohio, June 7.—The Labor Temple Realty Company has disposed of about one-half of the stock authorized, and it is believed by the officers and stockholders that with a good aggressive campaign the company will soon be in a position to begin active building operations. Much interest is being developed in the new labor temple, and the outlook is good for sufficient funds being raised to commence construction during the early summer.

ROANOKE STREET-CAR STRIKE.

Roanoke, Va., June 7.—The street car strike is still vigorously prosecuted. Citizens of the city are in entire accord with the men who are contesting with the street railway company, and to be considered as citizens and men. An agitation is being started for a municipal street railway line as the only effective remedy. All 1,600 miners have been on strike in this field for several weeks. The United Mine Workers are now making the first real progress that they have ever made in the State of West Virginia. The miners' long fight has not been for naught.

KEYMEN FAVOR STRIKE.

New York, June 7.—The vote on the question of a strike of telegraphers on the Harriman lines for an increase of 10 per cent in wages has been counted and shows an overwhelming majority for a strike. It is said that the railroad is making preparations for contingencies, but, notwithstanding the heavy vote in favor of the strike, that at least one-half of its telegraphers are attached.

LABOR'S MEMORIAL DAY.

Washington, June 7.—Reports coming in from all over the country are to the effect that Labor's Memorial Day, the fourth Sunday in May, was more generally observed than at any time previous. As usual, the day was one of receiving increasing recognition with appropriate ceremonies.

WOMEN ELIGIBLE.

Philadelphia, June 7.—The civil service commissioners of this city has made the announcement that women, as well as men, are eligible for the positions of street cleaning inspectors. These positions pay a salary of $1,200 annually.

THE JUGGERNAUT.

STEAM RAILWAYS' DEFECTS

Record of Killed and Injured Shows Increase.

REPORT OF LAST QUARTER 1912

Accident Bulletin of Interstate Commerce Commission Furnishes Statistics.

Washington, June 7.—Defective roadway and defective equipment caused 71.6 per cent of the derailments of steam railway trains during the quarter ended December 31, 1912, according to accident bulletin No. 46, just issued by the Interstate Commerce Commission. Of the derailments due to defective roadway, 22.8 per cent were caused by broken rails, and of the derailments due to defective equipment, 26.5 per cent were caused by defective wheels. In total accidents during the quarter, 390 persons were killed and 4,334 injured; in other accidents, not those to trains or employes while at work, passengers getting on or off cars, trespassers, and others, 2,611 persons were killed, and 15,726 injured. These figures show an increase of 125 killed and 2,107 injured over the corresponding quarter of 1911. The total number of collisions and derailments occurring during the quarter was 3,984 (1,859 collisions and 2,125 derailments), of which 229 collisions and 134 derailments affected passenger trains. The financial damages aggregated $3,486,953. An increase of 527 was shown in the number of train accidents. The number of collisions increased 423 and the number of derailments 213. The figures, generally, show increase from the corresponding quarter of the preceding quarter, as well as for the corresponding quarter of the previous year.

BUFFALO NEWS.

Buffalo, June 7.—The situation in and around Buffalo is improving. The machinists' strike now on is one that is involving a large number of men, are gradually returning to their work, and the strikers are returning to work. It is almost assured that the machinists will establish higher wages and better working conditions for all those who are employed in this kind of work. The strike of the carpenters is progressing which has been in progress for about two months, has been brought to a close, there having been concessions made to the drivers by the American and United States Express companies. The teamsters are still negotiating with the team owners for an increase in pay, and it is reported that they are making progress. Those team owners who refuse finally to grant the demands will face a strike in the near future. The textile workers employed by the Buffalo Belt and Weaving Company are on strike. The discharge of a girl employe who refused to strike is the cause of the trouble.

PATHETIC INCIDENT.

Baltimore, June 7.—At the recent biennial meeting of the Railroad Telegraphers the first president of the organization, Mr. Murdock, was present. Mr. Murdock is in poor health for a long time, in defiance of advice against attendance, made the trip from his home in Kansas to attend the convention. Upon his arrival here he became unable to walk unless necessary to remove him to his home, where he died shortly after. The convention, having signed its sympathy to his memory, and sixty delegates preceded to St. Louis to attend the funeral services, conducted according to the impressive ritual of the organization.

TO BE COMMENDED.

Washington, June 7.—Contractors on reclamation projects in the northwestern States of their laborers more than eight hours per day hereafter will be prosecuted, according to an announcement made on June 5 by Secretary Lane of the Interior Department. Secretary Lane has authority to require this report, and record, including the actual working time of every employe, to be kept on each of the reclamation jobs. Any violation of the eight-hour workday order are to be reported to the Attorney General for prosecution.

INQUIRY ASKED.

Washington, June 7.—Representative Victor Murdock of Kansas has introduced a resolution calling for the creation of a Presidential commission to investigate the operations of the Federal Reserve Board, Federal and State courts. Mr. Murdock declares that the big steamship companies are not complying with the Panama canal act, and that the steamship companies a larger proportion of outward bound steerage revenues.

RE-ELECT OFFICERS.

Baltimore, June 7.—The ninth biennial convention of the Order of Railroad Telegraphers, held in this city, was attended by delegates from all parts of the country. A large number of visitors also were present. All of the old officers were re-elected and a statistician, that of fifth vice president, was created. The reports of the officers to the convention showed that the organization had been made during the last biennial period.

BRICKLAYERS CHANGE SYSTEM.

Indianapolis, June 7.—The new financial system adopted a year ago by the Bricklayers' International Organization has already strengthened the treasury to a great extent. The report of the fiscal year just ended shows that the union has a total of $50,000 in the treasury, as against a deficit of $50,561.69; receipts for the year, $184,083.46; reserve in general fund, $81,362.62. The average membership for the year was 28,215.

HOD CARRIERS WIN.

Wheeling, W. Va., June 7.—The strike of the Hod Carriers, which has been on for some time, has been brought to a close by the award of the arbitration board, giving the Hod Carriers an increase of 2c cents per day. The former scale was $3 per day. The new scale makes the Hoopeston scale average up with the largest cities in the country.

NEW AMENDMENT EFFECTIVE.

Washington, June 7.—On May 31, 1913, Secretary of State William J. Bryan signed the formal announcement of the seventeenth amendment to the Constitution, providing for the direct election of United States Senators. This formally places the amendment in the Constitution.

MOLDERS' HELPERS STRIKE.

Hamilton, Ohio, June 7.—The molder helpers employed at the Niles Tool Works are on strike. The helpers have been receiving 20 cents an hour, but the company introduced a cut in wages and the helpers struck against the reduction.

MOLDERS GET GOOD SCALE.

Bloomington, Ill., June 7.—Information comes from Hoopeston that the molders have secured a substantial raise in wages. An agreement has been signed which raises the wage scale to $3.50 per day. This scale of wages makes the Hoopeston scale average up with the largest cities in the country.

NEW AMENDMENT EFFECTIVE.

Washington, June 7.—On May 31, 1913, Secretary of State William J. Bryan signed the formal announcement of the seventeenth amendment to the Constitution, providing for the direct election of United States Senators. This formally places the amendment in the Constitution.